

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-3 are pending. Claims 1-3 stand rejected. In this response, Applicant has amended claim 1 and added claim 4. Accordingly, claims 1-3 are presented for reconsideration and claim 4 is newly presented for consideration.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,853,145). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. In particular, Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...a scanning electrode drive circuit for applying a specified voltage to the scanning electrodes to begin an initialization period for the plasma display device after a lapse of a specified time period after turning on the power.

(Emphasis added). In the exemplary embodiment disclosed in Applicant's specification, this means that the power is turned on. Then, after a specified period of time, the initialization period begins. This feature may be found, for example, in the originally filed application at page 8, lines 6-8 and FIG. 4. No new matter has been added.

Kang discloses a method for driving a plasma display panel. As shown in FIG. 12, for example, the method includes applying a drive signal to the scan electrodes (Y). The drive signal includes an initialization signal, which includes a ramp-up portion and a ramp-down portion. Kang does not disclose when the initialization period occurs with respect to turning on power. Thus, Kang does not disclose "a scanning electrode drive circuit for applying a specified voltage to the scanning electrodes to begin an initialization period for the plasma display device after a lapse of a specified time period after turning on the power," as required (emphasis added).

It is because Applicant includes the feature of "a scanning electrode drive circuit for applying a specified voltage to the scanning electrodes to begin an initialization period for the plasma display device after a lapse of a specified time period after turning on the power," that the following advantages are achieved. Display quality after startup of the plasma display device can be enhanced because electric charge remaining in the discharge cells is completely eliminated during the initialization period and undesired discharge does not occur during the subsequent sustain operation. See, e.g., Applicant's specification at page 8, lines 14-19.

Accordingly, for the reasons provided above, claim 1 is allowable over Kang.

Claim 4 is newly added and is supported by Applicant's originally filed specification at page 8, lines 6-11.

Claims 2 and 4 include all features of allowable claim 1 from which they depend. Thus, claims 2 and 4 are also allowable over Kang for the reasons set forth above.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacques L. Etkowicz, Reg. No. 41, 738
Attorney for Applicant

JLE/dmw

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P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

NM298879